

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

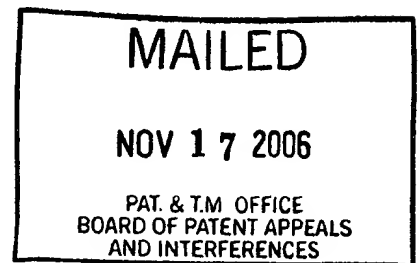
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte GREGORY MAURICE PLOW and FARROKH E. POURMIRZAIE

Appeal No. 2006-3330
Application No. 09/922,196

ON BRIEF



Before HAIRSTON, DIXON, and BARRY, Administrative Patent Judges.

HAIRSTON, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION

This is an appeal from the final rejection of claims 1 through 27. In an Amendment After Final, claims 17 through 23 were canceled. Accordingly, claims 1 through 16 and 24 through 27 remain before us on appeal.

The disclosed invention relates to a method and system for automatically inputting user information to an electronic form provided to a user computer from a server.

Claim 1 is illustrative of the claimed invention, and it reads as follows:

1. A method for automatically inputting user information to an electronic form provided to a user computer from a server, comprising the acts of:

receiving the electronic form at the user computer, the electronic form requiring user information to be input thereto;

retrieving user information from memory;

automatically inputting the user information to the electronic form;

updating the user information stored in the user computer in response to the user manually inputting data to the form;

providing a menu of user names with each user name corresponding to a respective auto-fill profile; and

allowing a user to select his or her name from the menu so that the autofill profile corresponding to the selected name is used to provide information to the electronic form.

The references relied on by the examiner are:

Kikinis	5,794,259	Aug. 11, 1998
Pennell et al. (Pennell)	2002/0013788	Jan. 31, 2002
		(filed May 18, 2001)

Claims 1 through 4, 9 through 12, 14 and 24 through 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pennell.

Claims 5 through 8, 13, 15, 16 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pennell in view of Kikinis.

Reference is made to the briefs and the answer for the respective positions of the appellants and the examiner.

OPINION

We have carefully considered the entire record before us, and we will sustain the anticipation rejection of claims 1 through 4, 9 through 12, 14 and 24 through 26, and sustain the obviousness rejection of claims 5 through 8, 13, 15, 16 and 27.

Anticipation is established when a single prior reference discloses, expressly or under the principles of inherency, each and every element of a claimed invention as well as disclosing structure which is capable of performing the recited functional limitations. RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Systems, Inc., 730 F.2d 1440, 1444, 221 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

Turning first to the anticipation rejection of claim 1, we agree with the examiner's findings (answer, page 3) that Pennell describes all of the steps set forth in this claim. "[A] form encountered on any number of web sites" is automatically filled in with information "stored locally on each user's computer" (paragraphs 0023 and 0024). A browser automation program 302 analyzes the form to determine the fields for which data is available from the user's database 304 (paragraph 0026). "The user may supply all of the listed information in pop up window 401 or may modify some or all of it before supplying it to the form" (paragraph 0027). "Fig. 7

illustrates a web page form 100 filled in automatically by selecting the ‘fill in’ button” (paragraph 0027). A menu of user names with each user’s name corresponding to a respective “autofill profile” is provided for in Pennell, and the user is allowed to select his or her name from the pull-down menu of names 403 so that the “autofill profile” corresponding to the selected name is used to provide information to the form 100 (Figures 5 and 7; paragraph 0029).

Appellant’s arguments throughout the briefs to the contrary notwithstanding, claim 1 on appeal does not preclude the use of the pop up window 401 to aid in the filling in of form 100. Accordingly, the anticipation rejection of claim 1 is sustained. The anticipation rejection of claims 2 through 4, 9 through 12, 14 and 24 through 26 is sustained because appellant has not presented any patentability arguments for these claims apart from the arguments presented for claim 1.

Turning next to the obviousness rejection of claims 5 through 8, 13, 15, 16 and 27, we agree with the examiner’s finding (answer, page 4) that a PIN is synonymous with a password when used in the manner described by both Pennell (paragraphs 0032 and 0033) and Kikinis (column 4, lines 32 through 37) to gain access to stored encrypted data. We additionally agree with the examiner’s finding (answer, page 4) that it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan “to have required the use of a PIN to access the protected, encrypted information in order to authenticate the proper user” In summary, the obviousness rejection of claims 5 through 8, 13, 15, 16 and 27 is sustained.

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DECISION

The decision of the examiner rejecting claims 1 through 4, 9 through 12, 14 and 24 through 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is affirmed, and the decision of the examiner rejecting claims 5 through 8, 13, 15, 16 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is affirmed.


No time period for taking any subsequent action in connection with this appeal may be extended under 37 CFR § 1.136 (a) (1) (iv).

AFFIRMED


KENNETH W. HAIRSTON
Administrative Patent Judge


JOSEPH L. DIXON
Administrative Patent Judge

) BOARD OF PATENT
) APPEALS
) AND
) INTERFERENCES


 LANCE LEONARD BARRY
 Administrative Patent Judge

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